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40 • The GAZETTE, Montreal, Thurs., Feb. 3, 1977

Montreal's Eastern flavor

— Todd Church, Gazette

These dancers are among the stars of a variety show to be seen this Saturday night at 8 p.m. in Victoria Hall, Westmount. The show, sponsored by the South Asia Association of Quebec, will feature dancers and singers, both classical and popular, from India and Pakistan, as well as the Quebec folk group Les Sortilèges. Except for a troupe of professional dancers from Pakistan, all the performers are Montrealers.

Probe told TV influence second only to mother's in shaping child's life

DALLAS — (UPI) — A hearing on television violence has been told television ranks second only to the mother and ahead of the father as a leading socializing force in a child's life.

"Parents know that television affects their children, that it influences children's ideas, values and aspirations," Dr. Charles Coder-Bolz said Tuesday.

Television content has a greater impact than other socializing aspects of a child's life such as family income, father's occupation, siblings and ethnicity, he said.

Coder-Bolz, a staff member of the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory in Austin, Tex., was one of 60 witnesses at the National Parent-Teacher Association's fifth regional public hearing on television violence.

The project was designed by the National PTA to focus attention on the potential effects of video violence on youngsters and the need for better quality and diverse TV programming.

"Almost every American family has invited a stranger into their home and this stranger has become a permanent house guest for most of us," Coder-Bolz said.

"And if allowed to do so, this stranger will talk incessantly. The only activity which consumes more of a child's life is sleeping."

Dr. Milton Cardwell, representing the Dallas County Medical Society, agreed. "From early childhood through high school the average child will view 15,000 hours of television."

Quebec cause of shift at CTV

To prepare for the possible separation of Quebec and reaction in the rest of Canada, CTV has restructured its department of news, features and information programming.

Two prime time current affairs series, W5 and Maclear, will not return to their present form next season, although W5's name may be retained.

Michael Maclear has been named executive producer of current affairs with responsibility for the two new programs planned. He will also appear as host of one of them.

The two new series will be "closely related and complementary, able to move fast to cover the situation as it changes, and also geared to provide in-depth analysis of what's happening," says Don Cameron, vice-president of the restructured department.

In the month since he succeeded Tom Gould, Cameron has emphasized integration of the department's various units to provide more flexibility.

The new current affairs shows will produce more documentarism such as those dealing with the historical perspective of Quebec independence movements.

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Network awards just entertainment, Carson bows out

JOHNNY CARSON "Producers, sponsors benefit"

LOS ANGELES — (AP) — Comedian Johnny Carson, saying that "we in the entertainment industry honor ourselves too frequently," has told CBS–TV he won't participate in its People's Choice Awards telecast.

Carson, star of NBC's *Tonight* show, said Tuesday that he informed producers of the CBS program, to be shown Feb. 10, he won't appear in it, furnish clips of his show for it, or accept any award.

Carson, singer John Denver and comedian Bob Hope are listed as nominees in the favorite all-around male entertainer category.

The network said finalists in 13 entertainment categories were chosen by an independent company's poll of 10,000 people.

"Commercially sponsored popularity contests among performers are designed primarily as entertainment for the television audience and to gather ratings," Carson said in a statement.

"I recognize the need of acknowledging excellence in our profession, but the votes should come from your peers, your fellow professionals or respected critics."

Carson said the financial beneficiaries of such awards shows are "the sponsors and producers, not the entertainment unions and guilds or the pension and welfare plans."

Bob Sivers, executive producer of the CBS show, now in its third year, said he disagrees with Carson's opinion. He also defended its method of selecting nominees, saying, "the public's award is equal to that of your peers."

Cano's music lacks originality

By JUAN RODRIGUEZ of The Gazette

Cano is the name of a French-Canadian folk-rock group from Sudbury, Ont., hoping to find a break in Quebec. They are appearing this week at the Eveche Club of the Hotel Nelson, following up the release of their first album, *Tous dans l'meme bateau* ("All in the same boat").

As that album title suggests, Cano is a mainstream pop group, having assimilated the harmonic and melodic hooks of the successful Quebecois groups like Beau Dommage and Harmonium, as well as the archetypal American peace-and-love artists like Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young and Joni Mitchell.

Consequently, there is a predictable quality to Cano's performance, which although quite professionally rehearsed betrays a lack of originality. The eight-member group likes to call itself a musical cooperative, but alas it is the cooperation of students intent of mastering the simple cliches they think will take them to success.

There is plenty of furious guitar strumming, both electric and acoustic, and earnest vocal harmonizing (in two languages) and miscellaneous instrumentation (violin, harmonica, piano), but Cano's musical mesh does not illuminate its favorite topics: Life, Love, the Self and The Way Things Are. Then again, most rock hopefuls don't have anything to add on such affairs, so Cano is truly in "la meme bateau".

At the Eveché through Sunday, twice nightly.

Quebec musicians invading France

PARIS — (Reuter) — Quebec has invaded France with protest singers, rock stars and balladeers who are winning a 10-year battle for popularity in the land of their ancestors.

They have had two top television shows devoted to them, constantly tour the country and now often rival home-grown singers on French radio.

The interest accelerated after last November's Parti Quebec victory, but the singers have seduced the French public with their twangy accents and immense variety of music.

Robert Charlebois chooses rock to sing *We are the Bastards of America*, Gilles Vigneault mocks bilingual Canada with a barn dance jig, and Felix Leclerc pours out his protests in gentle folk rhythms.

Leclerc first created interest a decade ago in Quebec music, and other singers gradually followed in his footsteps. As Vigneault put it in a recent interview: "It was through songs that the people of Quebec first demanded their own identity."

In a province where 80 per cent of the six million people are French-speaking, he explained: "My country is a language. We were threatened with being wiped off the map by the supremacy of a conquering tongue."

Another musician, Claude Léveillée, took up the same theme: "The cancer of the English language is spreading all over America. All we ask is to be masters in our home."

Canada Council warns of danger in fund cut

OTTAWA — (CP) — The Canada Council has warned that the country faces serious consequences because of the government's limitation of funds to finance research in the humanities and social sciences.

But the council, in its annual report for 1975-76 this week, says its work subsidizing the visual and performing arts, while also limited by budget restraints, has led to a rapid expansion in the last three years.

Between 1973-74 and last year, council support for the humanities and social sciences rose to $25 million from $20 million, but awards for doctoral fellowships fell to $9.8 million from $9.1 million.

"We can only deplore, with a firm and persistent voice, the frightening cutback in research funds channelled to the universities through our council and the other granting agencies," the report said.

"With rising costs and severely limited capital and working income there can be almost no growth, and this will have serious consequences for the future," said Gertrude M. Laing, council chairman.

Tour sabbatical over

Montreal concert may cheer pining fans of Led Zeppelin

Rock & Pop by Juan Rodriguez

Longsuffering local **Led Zeppelin** fans need no longer hold their breath over the return of their heroes.

The reigning rock heavyweights, whose sales per album have averaged more in the 1970s than any other supervolume rock outfit, haven't appeared here in more than ten years. The sabbatical from touring was forced by singer Robert Plant's near-fatal auto crash.

However, relief is on the way. Reliable sources in New York say that local impresario Donald K. Donald is on the verge of locking up a deal that will see Led Zep perform at the Forum in early April. Donald K. will neither confirm nor deny the report, but don't be surprised when tickets go on sale within a few weeks.

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Styx' recently postponed concert at the Forum — caused by storms playing havoc in the U.S. and Canada — has been re-set for Feb. 25. Because of "special technical production," not to mention the Chicago-based group's touring local record sales, an extra 2,000 seats have been put up for sale.

Meanwhile, promoter **Donald K. Donald,** whose real surname is Tarlton, is the subject of a 30-minute CBC television documentary feature, *King Concert*, to be aired later this month. Pilm crews followed Canada's leading rock impresario day-by-day for two weeks.

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Why have the **Rolling Stones** chosen Toronto as the site of mixing sessions for their upcoming album? The veteran rockers, who show no signs of gathering moss after nearly two million sales of *Black and Blue*, have been shopping around for suitable sites and had considered the Morin Heights hideaway Le Studio. The interest in Canadian studios, shared by others including Elton John and Alice Cooper, stems from the tax break superstar rock groups receive recording in non-American locales.

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Four dates have been added to **Jean-guy Moreau's** hit show, *C'est a ton tour Revé*.

The impressionist's fantasy of Premier René Lévesque in dreamland, which has attracted nothing but raves from all six Montreal daily newspapers, will move from Place des Arts to the Outremont Cinema Feb. 14-17.

His three-week stint at Theatre Maisonneuve was a sell-out; after the Outremont, Moreau will spend three months taking the show through la belle province.

There are still some tickets left for **Harmonium's** upcoming sojourn at the Outremont, Feb. 24 to Mar. 5.

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Meanwhile Quebec's most popular pop group, **Beau Dommage,** is in the midst of a crusade through some 40 centres in France.

The quintet's first two albums have reportedly sold 240,000 copies in Quebec, but the only way the group can get around France is by playing openers for Jolin Clerc.

Beau Dommage's third disc, entitled *Un autre jour arrive en ville*, is coming soon.

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Sheldon Kagan, ourtown's hardluck promoter, is back in business again, folks. After the demise of the three-week-old Flick Centre for the Performing Arts, Kagan is opening up Gaby Discotheque at the Flick's Crescent Street locale starting tonight.

A handout from **Kagan** says he's been involved for a long time with "various types of entertainment activities" and that "I have always thought it would be nice to have a permanent location for these events." Whatever that means.

Kagan's other new venture is promoting musical cruises in the Caribbean. A March cruise features classical music played for the seacruisers, while a May date is to feature live music by the likes of Earl Hines, Dizzy Gillespie, Lionel Hampton, Roberta Flack and Joe Williams. A brochure breathlessly hypes: "We are going to settle into a life of non-stop, exhilarating, exuberant music and laughter and glamour and fun . . . and question and answer groups where we can find out all we ever wanted to know about jazz and its talented artists . . ."

However, a telephone call to the number (931-8521) for both disco and sea cruises brought nothing but an off-hand voice saying, "Mr. Kagan doesn't come in, he calls in."

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Summer dreamers please note: The **Mariposa Folk Festival** has announced this year's dates: June 24 to 26, on the Toronto Islands. A list of performers is to be released soon.

Folk fans should keep in mind a promising get together at the Golem Coffee House, Feb. 17-20. The **Bo Bo Belinsky Blues Band,** featuring three longstanding local favorites — Steven Barry (bassist of the blues band that goes under his name), guitarist-pianist Andrew Cowan, who appeared with Kate and Anna McGarrigle in England, and Jon Illeisener, a guitarist of solo and group flights.

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